



FACTS & FIGURES

Capital	Beijing
Largest City	Chongqing
Official Languages	Standard Chinese
Official Script	Simplified characters
Currency	Renminbi (CNY)
Geography (estimates)	
Population	1408.28 million
Pop. Density	147/km ²
Area	9.6 million km ²
Time Zone	CST
Government	
President	Xi Jinping
Legislature	National People's Congress

HISTORY OF CHINA

- One of the world's oldest civilizations, with over 3,000 years of recorded history.
- Major contributions to early science, medicine (e.g. acupuncture, herbal remedies), and philosophy.
- Ruled by dynasties until 1912, including the Han, Tang, Song, and Qing—periods marked by growth in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM).
- 1912: Republic of China founded after fall of Qing Dynasty; followed by political instability and war.
- 1949: People's Republic of China established under Communist Party leadership.
- Mao-era reforms (e.g. Cultural Revolution) disrupted education and healthcare.
- Since 1978: Major economic and healthcare reforms; modernization of hospitals and public health systems.
- Now a leader in global health research and disease prevention (e.g. COVID-19 response).





- Highly diverse cuisine known for a breadth of cooking techniques and ingredients.
- The most influential cuisines are the “Eight Major Cuisines” – Sichuan, Cantonese, Jiangsu, Shandong, Fujian, Hunan, Anhui, and Zhejiang.
- Traditional Chinese dishes include: Chǎofàn (fried rice), Hundun Tang (Wonton soup), Mápó Dòufu (Mapo tofu), Cōng Yóu Bǐng (scallion pancakes), and Gong Bao Ji Ding (Kung Pao Chicken).



Mainland China – Official Public Holidays

- New Year’s Day (1 day)
- Spring Festival (Chinese New Year, 4 days)
- Tomb-Sweeping Day (1 day)
- Labour Day (2 days)
- Dragon Boat Festival (1 day)
- Mid-Autumn Festival (1 day)
- National Day (3 days)

Language & Religion

Cuisine

Music & Art

Important Dates & Holidays

- China has as many as 292 living languages.
- The national language of China is Standard Chinese – a variety of Mandarin based on the Beijing dialect.
- Chinese culture has historically been shaped by Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism – the “three doctrines”.
- The most common practice is Chinese folk religion which is framed by the “three doctrines”.



- From modern to traditional there is a highly diverse range of Chinese music.
- Traditional Chinese opera originated thousands of years ago and has multiple forms including Beijing and Cantonese opera.
- China also has Chinese pop or C-Pop which includes mandopop and Cantopop.

